

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03
NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 ACDA-12 /087 W
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R 281750Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2679
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHAPE
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

S E C R E T BONN 18038

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR
SUBJECT: THE EASTERN RESPONSE TO THE WESTERN DATA
PROPOSAL

REFS: A) MBFR VIENNA 0533 DTG 251848Z OCT 77
B) USNATO 10435 DTG 261704Z OCT 77

1. INITIAL FRG WORKING LEVEL REACTION, BY FONOFF MBFR
DIRECTOR DR. RUCKRIEGEL AND HIS STAFF, TO THE EASTERN
RESPONSE TO THE WESTERN DATA PROPOSAL HAS BEEN POSITIVE.

2. RUCKRIEGEL SAID THAT HE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT THE
FRG TAKE A CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH TOWARD THE EASTERN
PROPOSAL, SINCE IT REPRESENTS A POINT OF DEPARTURE ON
THE DATA BASE ISSUE FROM WHICH WE COULD ENGAGE THE EAST
IN A MORE MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE THAN HAS BEEN THE CASE
TO DATE.

3. NATURALLY, HE WENT ON TO SAY, THE ACCEPTANCE
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OF HIS VIEWS AS THE OFFICIAL GERMAN POSITION COULD NOT
BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED SINCE THERE WERE POLITICAL
REALITIES WITHIN THE FRG GOVERNMENT TO BE CONSIDERED,
OF WHICH WE WERE AWARE.

4. EMBASSY APPRECIATES DEPARTMENT'S PRESS GUIDANCE
ON NEWS STORIES RELATED TO THE NEW INITIATIVE. CDU/CSU

DEFENSE EXPERT DR. MERTES RAISED THE SUBJECT OF THE NEW INITIATIVE AND ITS POSSIBLE LINKAGE TO THE PRODUCTION/DEPLOYMENT OF REDUCED BLAST WEAPONS IN THE QUESTION PERIOD OF TODAY'S BUNDESTAG SESSION. THE PRESS GUIDANCE RECEIVED WAS HELPFUL TO MINISTER OF STATE DR. VON DOHNANYI IN FORMULATING ANSWERS TO MERTES' INQUIRIES. WE WILL PROVIDE THE DETAILS OF THE EXCHANGE WHEN THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE DEBATE IS RECEIVED.

5. WE SUPPORT US NATO INTERESTS (REF B) IN RECEIVING MORE CLARIFICATION ON ANY US THINKING REGARDING LINKAGE BETWEEN MBFR AND THE PRODUCTION/DEPLOYMENT OF REDUCED BLAST WEAPONS.

STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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